

# The *Standard*

Volume 30, Issue 5      Concordia College, 275 North Syndicate, St. Paul, MN 55104      Friday December 16, 1994

## Concordia University System Underway

by Amy MacFee

What? Concordia is becoming a university? Well, not exactly. Concordia St. Paul is joining arms with all of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod colleges and universities throughout the United States. According to Mike Flynn, Vice President for Development, "The ten-school, inter-campus partnership will be characterized by an enhanced quality of education for students, the efficient allocation of resources and distinctive inter-relational arrangements. Concurrently, the distinguishing character, strength and autonomy of each institution will be affirmed."

The Concordia University System is being developed in response to growing American Education concern. A task force has been set up to develop a system that "builds national identity, enables cooperative endeavors, and enhances the strength of the colleges and universities of the Lutheran Church -Missouri Synod as they engage students of diverse ages and cultures in quality, Christ-centered, value-oriented, Lutheran higher education for lives of service of church and community." This goal has been the focus in the efforts of staff and administrators from the ten institutions involved in this change.

President Holst is highly in favor of this cooperative network because it will allow CSP to have access to the strength and resources of nine other colleges. He says in his support, "Networking is the answer today. No one school can have all the resources that it needs on its own." This collaborative unit will "promote cooperative efforts while protecting the autonomy of each school," says Holst.

Mike Flynn explained that there are 14 teams that are currently working on the initiatives and determining how to carry out the goals that have been established. Each of these teams consists of members from several of the ten schools involved and each is headed by a captain. Dr. Loma Meyer states that, "Concordia St. Paul has fine representation in these teams."

The fourteen teams have been organized to investigate one specific part of the system and create a program that makes their goal a reality. The first team is concerned with the Affective Transmission of Lutheran Values. The second team is tackling the issue of Cultural Diversity, with President Holst is the captain. Holst doesn't consider it a mistake that he was chosen as the leader of this committee since CSP is so advanced in its cultural diversity efforts. The questions that

this group is concerned with are as follows: How do you live in harmony and appreciation of all students on campus, and how does this affect the school academically? Through this committee's efforts, they hope to promote this harmony through communication. President Holst explains that each college is unique and therefore the issue of diversity will be addressed at each individual college. He says, "The issue is common in its nature, but its application on each campus will differ." He wants the different cultures to be represented throughout different classes such as in literature classes. He sees this program as "a confirmation of what we've already done here at CSP." But there are other schools in this system, such as that in Austin TX, for example, which do not have as many programs set up to meet the multi-cultural needs. CSP is seen as a model in this area.

The third team deals with the Relationship of Concordia University To The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. This committee zeros in on the depth of involvement of the Church with the different schools.

Commitment To Student Success is the concern of the fourth team. They are examining the needs of the students and developing ways to assist students in having a more successful and

positive collegiate experience. Team five is committed to Assessment and Quality Control. This area builds on the work of the fourth team.

Dr. Loma Meyer is the captain of the Simultaneous Enrollment group. She explains this as an "umbrella" term with a triple focus. It consists of the Visiting Student, the Travel Study, and the Distance Learning Programs. The Visiting Student aspect presents an opportunity for students at one of the University System colleges to travel to another one for up to three quarters. Students must have completed at least one quarter at their "home campus" to participate in this program. The tuition would be paid at "home" and food and housing would be managed and paid for at the college of the student's choice. This program guarantees full credit transfer and an opportunity for a "different experience on a different campus," says Flynn. Dr. Loma Meyer hopes this program will "encourage and facilitate movement among students from campus to campus."

The second part is the Travel Study Program, dealing with overseas studies. This cooperation unit of all the schools will allow students to choose an experience from any of the ten colleges. This *University Continued on page 3*

## The GOP Regains Control After 40 Years

by Theresa Seto

Election Day, Tuesday, November 9, 1994, marked a sizeable sweep for the Republicans. The GOP gained eight seats in the United States Senate, altering a 55:45 Democratic majority to a 47:53, Republican majority. In the U.S. House of Representatives, the GOP party gained 52 seats, which now puts the GOP at 230 members to 204 Democratic seats.

The final results for the Minnesota election are as follows: Independent-Republican endorsed Incumbent, Arne Carlson won the gubernatorial election against DFL endorsed John Marty. The

final vote total, according to the November 10, 1994 edition of the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, showed Carlson at 1.1 million votes and Marty at fewer than 600,000 votes. According to Ragsdale, a writer for the *Pioneer Press*, Marty's defeat is the worst in the history of the DFL.

The United States Senate seat was taken by Independent-Republican Rod Grams, who beat his opponent, Ann Wynn, by 48% - 45% margin. Seats for the U.S. congress were bipartisan by district: First district, IR Gil Gutknecht over DFL John C. Hottinger; Second district,

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Jolly Old St. Nick--

Have you been naughty or nice???

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## GOP

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DFL David Minge over Independent Stan Bentz and IR Gary B. Revier; Third district, incumbent IR Jim Ramstad; Fourth district, incumbent DFL Bruce C. Vento; Fifth district, incumbent DFL Martin Sabo; Sixth district, DFL William P. Luther over IR Tad Jude; Seventh district, incumbent DFL Collin Peterson; Eighth district, incumbent DFL James L. Oberstar.

Other candidates who were elected include Lieutenant Governor, Joanne Benson; Secretary of State for her sixth term, Joan Growe; and Attorney General for his fourth term, Hubert H. Humphrey III.

A side note that also came up on the ballots during election regarded the Off-Track Betting (OTB) amendment. The question addressed was whether the Minnesota Constitution should be amended to permit off-track wagering on horse racing in a manner prescribed by law; the resulting vote was "NO."

The past mid-term election was an important election for President Clinton, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the U.S. Senate, especially since the Executive Branch (President) is held by a Democrat and the Democratic Legislative Branch (Senate and House) has held control in both houses for the past 40 years.

In this midterm fight between parties the House needed 40 Republican seats to gain control and the Senate needed seven seats. The Republican/GOP party has not had control of both Houses since 1954. The fight for control brought President Clinton out on the circuit on behalf of endorsed Democratic candidates. As for Minnesota, President Clinton came to the state three times in support of DFL-endorsed Senate candidate, Ann Wynn.

In a brief interview, conducted on November

8, 1994 by the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, President Clinton commented on problems with the Republican Program: "Both Senate Republicans and House Republicans are promising big tax cuts for wealthy people and big spending increases and a balanced budget. Now, the only way that can be financed is if they [Republicans] cut everything else about 20%, including Social Security; they will have to cut everything else in the budget: Medicare, Student Loans, agriculture supports. It would be a devastating thing for Medicare. If they [Republicans] don't intend to balance the budget but just do what they did before in the 1980s, then you're looking at the deficit going way up and the economy going down again. Only 23% of voters know that we had the biggest deficit reduction in 20 years."

Staff writer, Bill Salisbury of the November 9, 1994 edition of the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, commented on Carlson's victory. His win has been attributed to a solid economic record, referring to the \$623 million budget surplus: "When he [Carlson] took office in 1991, the state was in a recession, businesses were closing, thousands of Minnesotans were out of work, and he faced a \$1.8 billion shortfall in the state budget that he inherited from DFL Governor Rudy Perpich."

Under Carlson's governorship, and with the help of the "national economic recovery," the state's economy has dramatically taken a new direction. Thousands of new jobs have been created, unemployment is at a 16-year low and the state has a budget surplus. Carlson has also led the state through a recession and budget obstacles with few tax increases and minimal damage to the state's high-quality schools, parks, roads, welfare programs and other high quality services.

As governor for a second term, Carlson's first four priorities for the upcoming term are 1) to fight to control government spending by setting priorities, making tough choices and long-term

planning, especially in holding state spending to balance the budget without increasing taxes; 2) to create a "seamless education system" from early learning through apprenticeships to higher education, including high, measurable academic standards; 3) to reform a welfare system that presently undermines work and families; 4) to change costly workers' compensation systems that drive businesses out of state.

Carlson also supports preexisting health care condition coverage, portable insurance coverage, malpractice reform, money for rural hospitals, programs to prevent teen pregnancy, parental consent for teen abortions, state-funded education, a longer school year, term limits for legislators and constitutional officers, and non-partisan legislative redistricting commissions, further reform of workers compensation, tax incentives to attract businesses, economic development incentives to Greater Minnesota, money to help farmers meet feed lot environmental standards, expansion in loan programs for beginning farmers, continuation of lawsuits to overturn federal milk pricing, expansion of the ethanol incentive program, work requirements for welfare recipients, more money for domestic violence shelters, tougher child support enforcement, incentives for communities to promote a housing mix, lowering tax rates on low income rental property, regional housing policies, money for violence protection, and a "3 strikes you're out" legislation.

Many incumbents for the state of Minnesota kept their seats in the U.S. House of Representatives, but as for the U.S. Senate, the seat was open during this election year. Current Independent-Republican Senator, Dave Durenberger did not run for reelection this term. He has held his seat on the Senate for the past sixteen years and will be replaced by the newly elected Independent-Republican Rod Grams at the end of the year.

Grams' platform regarding this year's election embraces a promise that he will never vote for a tax increase and will vote to cut federal spending. Grams also opposes gun control and supports anti-abortion issues. Issues that Grams supports are divided into eight different categories: 1) *Reproductive choice* which supports constitutional rights for the fetus. 2) *Deficit Control* which supports means testing for entitlements, a balanced budget amendment, and line item veto. 3) *Environment* which supports stronger measures to protect wetlands, stronger water quality standards, and promotes non-nuclear energy sources. 4) *Criminal Justice* which supports a "3 strikes and you're out" legislation, more money for drug treatment and education, increased dollars to build prisons, and more use of electronic monitoring. 5) *Social Policy* which supports work requirements for welfare recipients, interstate collection of child support, funding for early childhood education, more money for low income housing, and money for domestic violence shelters. 6) *Foreign Policy* which supports the GATT Treaty, and a tightened immigration policy. 7) *Health Care* which supports preexisting condition coverage, portable insurance coverage, and malpractice reform. 8) *Government Management* which supports Congressional term limits.

Other priorities Grams has stated upon election include cutting taxes for middle-class American families and eliminating the budget deficit. His "Families First" legislation accomplishes tax cuts for families by providing working families with an annual \$500 per child tax credit (\$500 million for Minnesota families), and placing a two percent cap on spending growth, which would balance the budget in eight years.

These were the prominent issues addressed in this year's election. Every person has a voice when it comes to governmental issues. If you disagree or agree, you can make your voice heard by contacting your local district representative or State Senate. You voted, you have a voice, and your voice can make a difference! †

# Not Just Money

by Theresa Monette

When someone mentions finances, usually he or she is referring to money. The Concordia College finance department not only handles budgetary concerns, but also carries many other responsibilities. Most of these activities impact students daily, and yet most students are probably unaware of the finance department's responsibilities to the college. Further, there have recently been many important changes to this department which impact all students.

Vice President for Finance Gene Muilenburg facilitates the many areas in his division. He is also involved with strategic planning for the college, facilities acquisitions, and a variety of other services. There are six divisions that he coordinates. The divisions and their operators are Fay Harre, Director of Financial Operations; Dan Meuwissen, Director of Auxiliary Services; Mary Arnold, Director of Human Resources; John Chitty, Director of Plant & Operations; Hal Raether, GC & LMC Coordinator; and Bruce Nustad, Facilities Manager. Each of these divisions has its own subdivisions that include staff and students alike. Also, each of the areas has its own distinct responsibilities to the college.

Fay Harre's area handles accounting, budgeting, financial analysis, cashing and cash management, student accounts, auditing, banking, financial statements, and institutional insurance. Dan Meuwissen is in charge of security, vehicles, food service, mail room, bookstore, purchasing, copiers, environmental safety, and keys. Mary Arnold controls human resources, payroll, employee training and development, employee benefits, and policies and procedures. John Chitty takes care of custodial, housekeeping, plant operations, grounds, buildings, and minor construction. Hal Raether coordinates Gangelfhoff Center (GC) rentals, GC event coordination, Lutheran Memorial Center (LMC) rentals, and LMC event coordination. Bruce Nustad works with off campus student housing, campus facilities rentals and events, and the master calendar.

Many of these job titles are new or have been recently enhanced because of organizational changes within the finance department. These changes affect students in many ways: student accounts has become more customer-oriented and user-friendly, mostly as a result of position changes when Chris Tesch and Stephanie Johnson were added as co-partners in this division. The copiers are moving from a sporadic and

unorganized group of systems to a central and more accessible one. Payroll has moved and Rena Miller has helped arrange for direct deposit and other student-oriented services. Part-time housekeeping staff has changed the look of many Concordia buildings to make them cleaner and more inviting. Planning for GC and LMC events by the community has helped lower the overall cost for maintaining these facilities and rentals extend as far in advance as two years. Finally, a master calendar of all campus events is on the verge of completion so that students have a central place to look at what is in their future.

These and many other new campus services, like Marriott dining and improved parking conditions, are part of the financial services improved staff and student-centered approach. Gene Muilenburg states that what his division strives for is to be "sensitive to students while remaining responsible to the institution." It would seem that this goal will be even better attained with the improvements and changes occurring. Look for information about specific areas of interest at the offices of the above individuals, and if the person desired is difficult to find, just ask. †



## University

continued from page 1

expands the opportunity of different experiences. The third part is Distance Learning. This is also the responsibility of team seven. Distance learning is an interactive television program that would enable students to "draw on the strength of all campuses." For example, students could enroll in a class at CSP that would be taught at Concordia Moorhead via this telecommunication network. In effect, students could take a class through television, and still interact as if they were present in the Moorhead classroom. Dr. Meyer considers all three of these areas to be "enriching experiences" for students.

Team eight is working on the development of an active program that would identify potential faculty among the students. This Faculty Identification and Development team would target students who seem to possess the characteristics of a qualified professor after receiving further education. This team would work closely with Team 12.

Emily Moore, captain of Team 9, along with the members of this team, are investigating ways to help students minimize the amount of time they spend at school. The Decreased Completion Time unit is trying to assist students and encourage them to make "efficient use of their time," says Flynn. With the incorporation of the Distance Learning and Visitation programs, students will be able to decrease their time in school because if a class is not offered at their "home college," they can take it from another college.

The tenth team is System Efficiencies: Consolidated Services. This is where the joining of the ten schools can be an asset financially. President Holst explains, "Hopefully by working closely together, the purchasing power will

increase." For example if all the colleges united under one food plan, then the prices for food could potentially decrease.

The Electronic Library, of which Dr. Glen Offermann is a member, is the effort of Team 10. This system would connect all the libraries on one unit. The Colic network and other local information opportunities would also be available. This connection with the other libraries would be additional.

Leadership Training is the responsibility of Team 12. This relates to the Faculty Identification because it would train the persons who were identified as potential leaders.

Committee 13 is the National Council For The Identification And Cultivation Of Funding Sources. Mike Flynn is the co-captain of this team. This group is working on the development of a funding cabinet that would consist of individuals who either have knowledge of funding or have the money themselves. This is a key part of the University System because it holds the key to its success. Distance Learning will not be a possibility without funding for it.

Finally, Committee 14 is the Communications and National Image. This committee is the "marketing arm" that is in charge of the promotion of the program. As Mike Flynn describes it they help to "get the name out there." This program is exciting and will put Concordia on the cutting edge. Th By fall 1995, the Simultaneous Enrollment program will have its pilot year. This experimental year will send five willing students to any of the ten colleges of their choice and CSP will accept five students. The interest in this program will be evaluated. Many of the other teams are still meeting and preparing for the final development of their efforts. This University System is a reality and will begin to be incorporated throughout all LCMS campuses. The time line calls 1994-5 the Testing and Demonstration year, and 1995 will hold the earliest stages of implementation. †

## Tobacco-Free Campus

### January 1, 1995

#### NEWS RELEASE

CSP becomes a tobacco-free campus effective January 1, 1995.

Individually designated on-campus residential rooms and off-campus housing are exempted from this policy. All other indoor areas on campus are tobacco-free, thus creating a "Clean Indoor Air Policy." Beyond the exception listed above, tobacco is not permitted in entrances to buildings, offices, tunnels, classrooms, dining hall, student union, athletic facilities, and all other indoor areas.

Receptacles for cigarette, cigars and other tobacco products will be positioned near key buildings on campus (approximately 20 feet from entrances). Smokers must smoke outdoors, at least 20 feet from any building to insure entrances are free of smoke.

The college will offer support services to those individuals wishing to discontinue a tobacco habit. Periodic seminars conducted by the College, the American Cancer Society, or the American Lung Association will be offered free of charge. The college nurse will coordinate this service. †

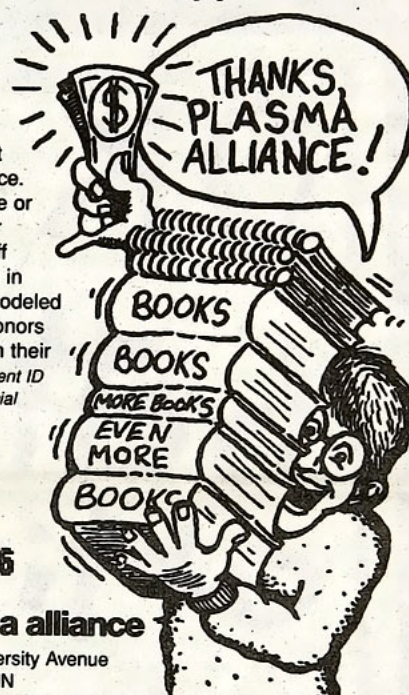
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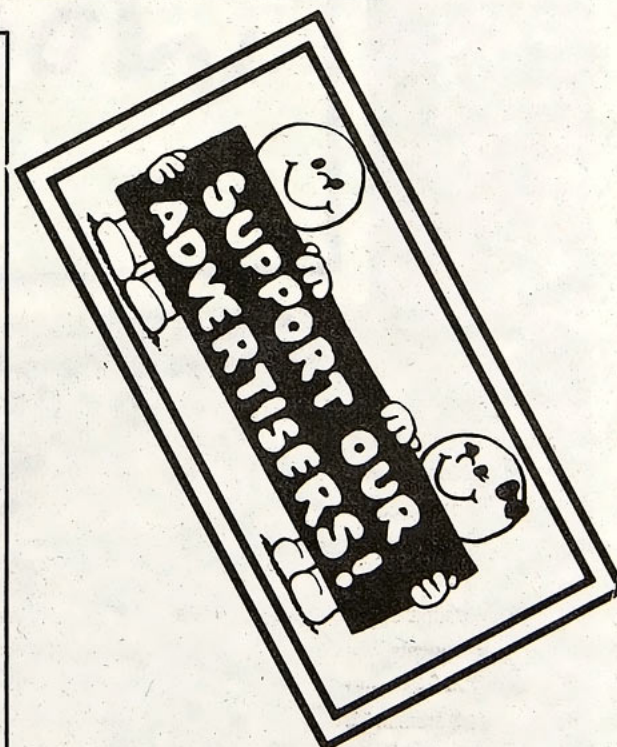
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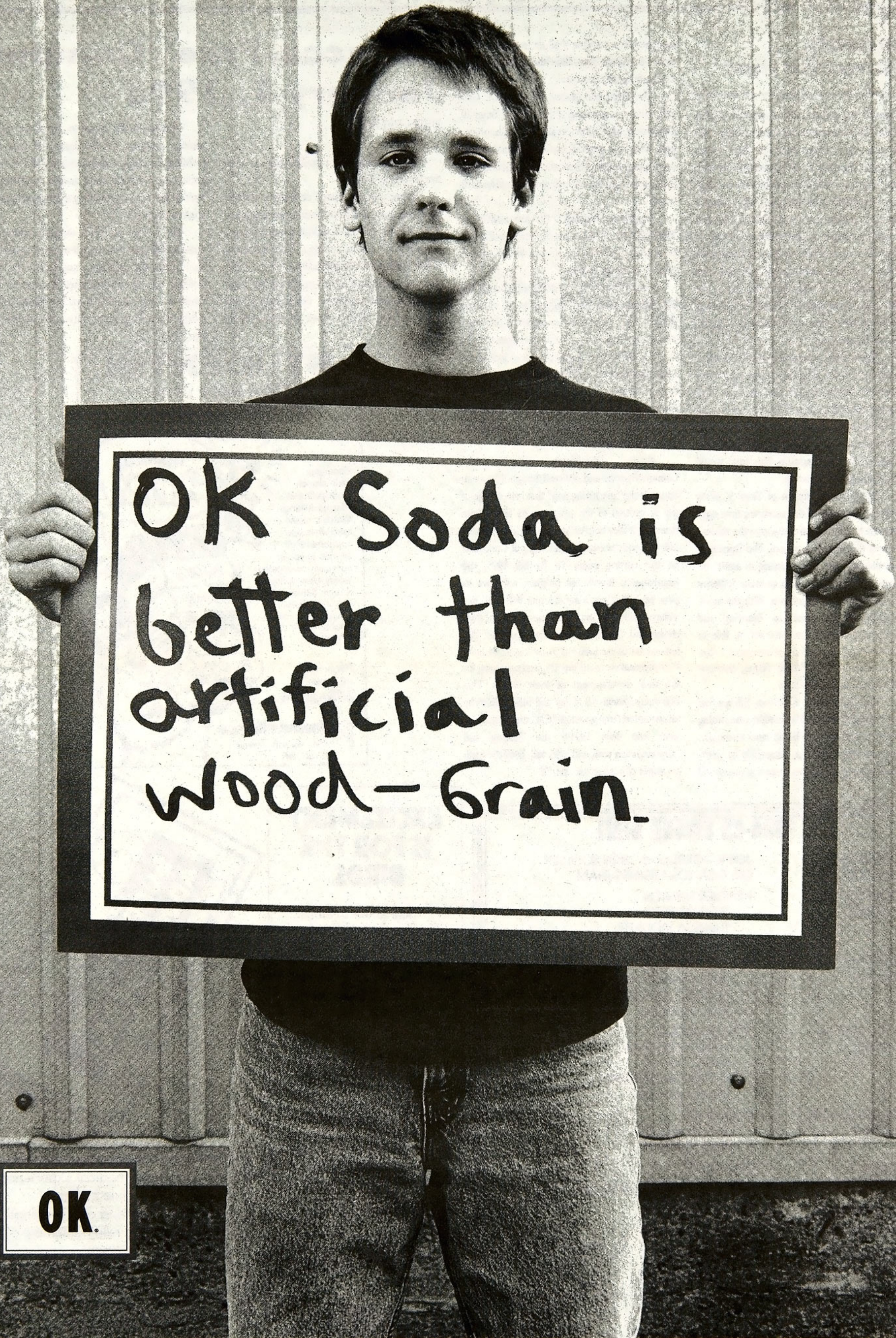
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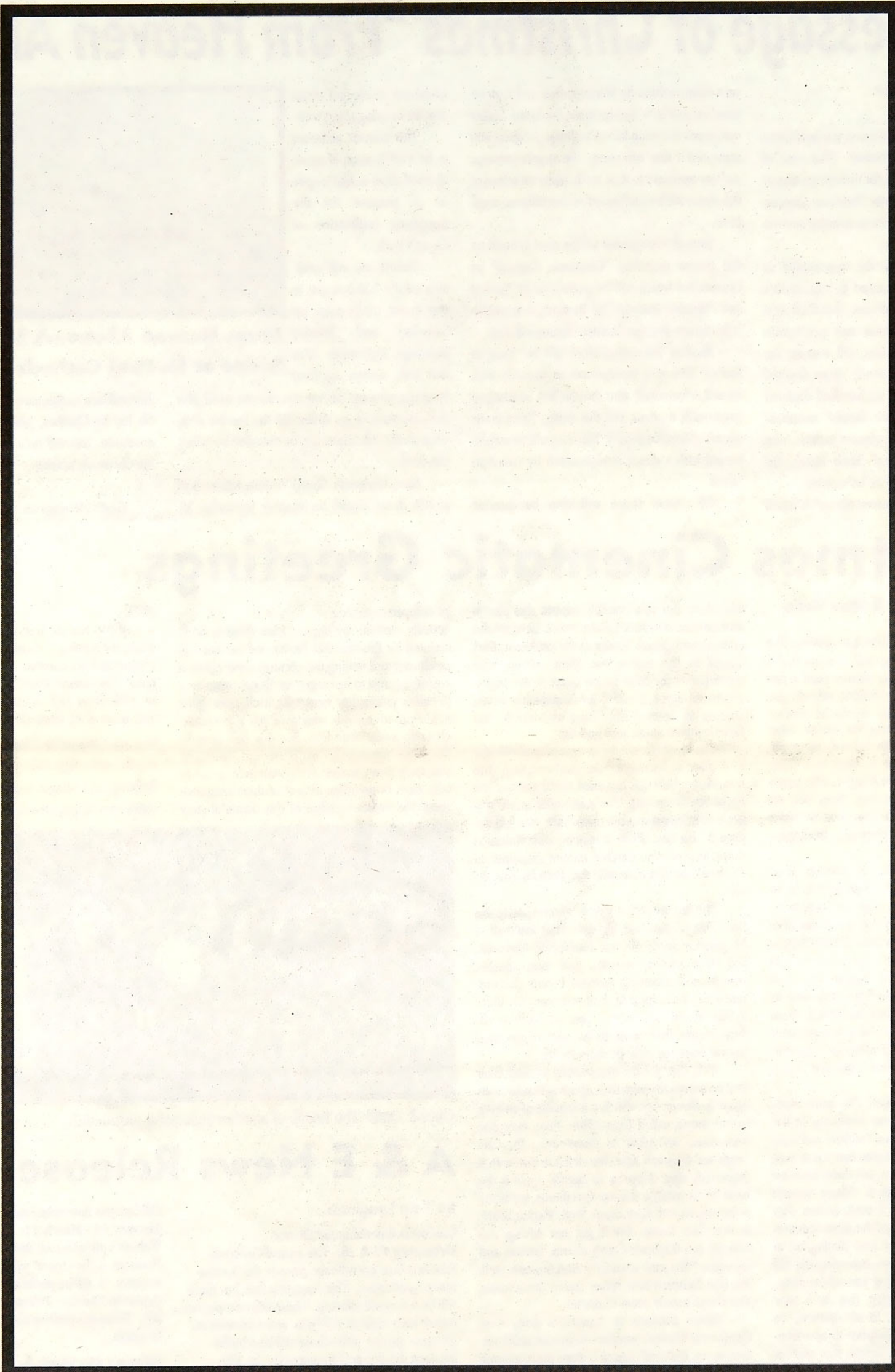
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# The Message of Christmas "From Heaven Above"

by Kristine Ranweiler

Has Christmas sneaked up on you and found you unprepared for the season? This time of Advent allows us to prepare for the recognition of Christ's birth. The Concordia Christmas Concert provides a perfect occasion for us to enter into the spirit of Christmas.

Once again, we have the opportunity to enjoy beautiful music presented by Concordia's Christus and Jubilate Choruses, handbell and string ensembles, and brass and percussion ensemble. Dr. Jeffrey Burkart will narrate the evening for us as we listen to the choirs directed by Dr. David Mennicke and the handbell choir led by Sue Southwick. Other faculty members involved or directing in the concert include John Roth, Dr. John Eggert, Prof. Sarah Hersh, Dr. Kathryn Schenk, and Prof. Kim LaFontaine.

The theme "From Heaven Above" is based

on a hymn written by Martin Luther and is structured around how Luther wrote the hymn. Luther composed the song for a Christmas program and separated it into two parts: the angel's message and our response to it on earth. Many variations of this hymn will be performed by the different musicians.

Several other pieces will be used to build on the theme including "Christmas Cantata" by Charpentier which will be performed by Jubilate and "Navidad Nuestra" by Ramirez, a mariachi-style cantata that the Christus Chorus will sing.

Another interesting piece will be "Time in Space." This song incorporates an interview with Russell Schweickart who did the first unattached space walk, a poem, and the words "Dona nobis pacem" (Grant us peace). The song will be accompanied with a dance interpretation by Called to Dance.

Of course there will also be familiar

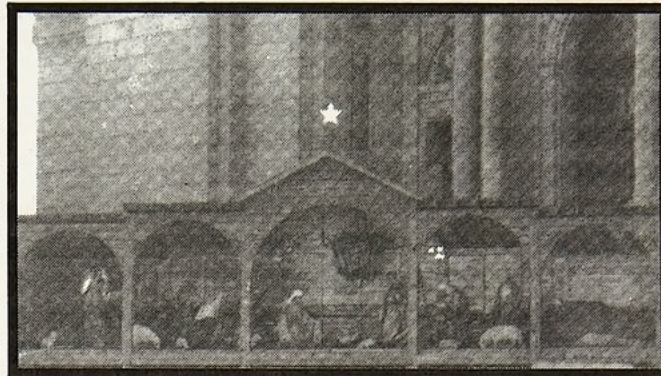
Christmas carols and songs that we can sing along with.

This concert promises to be a celebration of music that will allow us and inspire us to prepare for the upcoming celebration of Christ's birth.

Tickets are still available for the 7:30 concerts in the music auditorium on Saturday and Sunday evenings, December 17th and 18th. Tickets are free!

Students who are not on the campus meal plan may also want to get tickets for the Sunday afternoon buffet. All tickets can be obtained by calling 641-8860.

Also...Christmas Choral Vespers will be held at 7:30 in the chapel on Monday, December 19.



From Heaven Above--A Majestic Scene at St. Paul Cathedral

This will be a traditional service of lessons and carols led by Christus, Jubilate, and the handbell ensemble. This will be a wonderful send-off into the Christmas holiday.

God's blessings and Merry Christmas. †

## Christmas Cinematic Greetings

by Wendy FitzHenry & Marc Wedo

'Tis the season for Christmas movies. The holiday rush is in full swing, and you can find a wide selection of soon-to-be classics (and a few movie turkeys) everywhere. Below, we will give you our Christmas gift—the words of wisdom from two experienced moviegoers who probably have too much to say. Be sure to heed our words.

Take your kid brother or sister to a movie (we suggest sci-fi or *The Lion King*) or take grandma to see *Love Affair*. Anyway, when you are bored over the lengthy Christmas vacation that is upon us, drop by your local bijou and check these films out.

*Star Trek: Generations* is another great chapter in the saga of the U.S.S. Enterprise (however many there are now). This *Star Trek* is set apart from others by the fact that it includes all of the cast from *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, as well as three actors from the original *Star Trek*. At long last Captain Picard and Captain Kirk meet and join forces to stop the bad guy (this time its Dr. Soren played by Malcolm McDowell) from destroying stars in order to reach a strange space phenomena known only as "The Nexus." I saw this movie over Thanksgiving, and I thought that it was exceptional.

Since I've seen this film, I've been more prone to hear comments and rumblings in the hallways and classrooms from Trekkers and non-Trekkers alike. Most people agree that it is at least a normal caliber *Star Trek* film, but there are a few who were disappointed with it. "There weren't enough space battles" and "I can't believe they killed Captain Kirk!" are two of the most common complaints. I can only offer one closing bit of advice: If you go to this movie expecting the old *Trek*, then chances are fair that you will be disappointed. Keep in mind that this is a new Enterprise and a new crew. In my opinion, we should let them take the Enterprise to new frontiers and "boldly go" where Captain Kirk and his crew did not. After all, from here on out they are on their own. (MW)

In the spirit of Wendy's birthday and her appreciation of good science fiction, we decided to journey to another world (and time) in *Stargate*. This two hour epic has enough action and plot for at least three movies. This is an exciting and quick ending sci-fi that feels like *Star Wars*, has the archeology of *Indiana Jones*, and the magic of *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*. There's romance (ok, one kiss), action, killing, aliens, cool glowing eyes, and a little Egyptian god named Ra.

The plot is basic and complicated at the same time. James Spader is a geeky Egyptologist

who...how can you possibly explain this plot is four sentences or less? Ok, we won't. Here are the main players: James Spader as the professor, Kurt Russell as the strong but silent colonel who accompanies the brain on his quest to the origins of ancient Egypt, the U.S. government (as usual, wanting to destroy something wonderful), and Jaye Davidson as the sexy god Ra.

The cinematography is exceptional (filming took place in Arizona for the desert scenes). The lines drawn between this alien world and ancient Egypt are fascinating. The amount of movie you get is definitely worth the price. Take your kid siblings to this one. While it may be a bit violent at times, anyone who watches mutant creatures on TV should be able to handle this. Four big thumbs up.

The last movie I saw with Warren Beatty was *Dick Tracy*. That dates all of us. That was back in his playboy years. He was romancing Madonna, and then another woman, and then another woman, and eventually Annette Bening (his current wife). I was leery of their marriage, but so far it has stood up to the test of Hollywood. Surprisingly, they seem to be very happy (and have at least one child to show for it).

Well, they got the opportunity to show their love on screen through *Love Affair* a remake of *An Affair to Remember*, which is a remake of an even earlier movie called *Love Affair*. Now, everyone remembers *An Affair to Remember*. Ah, Cary Grant and Deborah Kerr. We all fell in love with it (especially after *Sleepless in Seattle* made it the basis for its plot), and more specifically, we all fell in love again with Cary Grant. Well, Warren Beatty is not Cary Grant. Don't get me wrong, but nobody can duplicate Cary's charm, finesse, and his voice ("We sunk a truck!"). And Annette, well, she isn't Deborah Kerr either. But in this remake, that doesn't really seem to matter.

Pierce Brosnan is Annette's man, Kate Capshaw is Warren's woman—both have solid performances, but I still cannot believe that someone would leave Pierce for Warren. Oh well. Other supporting actors include Gary Shandling and Chloe Webb, also doing great jobs as the comic relief. One special person to look for is Katherine Hepburn, whom Beatty reportedly had to beg to be in the film. Ms. Hepburn, of course, plays the aunt, and she does a beautiful job as a loving old spinster. You are touched by the magic and grace she still possesses.

The directing is wonderful. There are some interesting angles taken with light, and director Glenn Gordon Caron (*Moonlighting*) plays with colors and darkness throughout the film. The screenplay stays true to the remake of the original, with a few fun variations; and the movie is overall

an enjoyment to see.

Actually, despite my biggest fears (further accumulated by the fact that Beatty had his hand in producing and writing the picture), *Love Affair* is something not to be forgotten. Don't compare it to earlier pieces, just view it for itself. *Love Affair* holds up to today's standards for a romantic, cheerful, sweet little film. See this one now, or save it for Valentine's Day. Beatty and Bening do this story sweet justice. It's a wonderful piece to take mom or grandma to and let them reminisce about the earlier versions of this beautiful story

(WF).

If you feel more in the mood for Christmas spirit, try renting a classic (or going to the two Christmas films currently out). We would recommend *The Grinch That Stole Christmas*, *Miracle on 34th Street* (old or new), *A Christmas Story*, and, most of all, *White Christmas*.

May your visions be filled with sugar plums and movie stars, Egyptian gods, the Empire State Building, and Klingons—and may all your wishes come true. Happy Holidays. †



Guys & Dolls—The finale of another successful production

## A & E News Release

by Tom Langemo

Concordia Entertainment Events:  
**December 17 & 18:** The Annual Concordia Fine Arts Concert will take place in the Buetow Music Auditorium. The concert is free, but there will be a free-will offering. There will be a performance each night at 7:30 p.m. and a matinee at 3:00 p.m. on the 18th—there will be a buffet between the two performances on the 18th.

**December 19:** The Christmas Vespers service will take place in the Graebner Memorial Chapel at 7:30 p.m.

\*Celebrate the birth of the Christ-child and the anticipation of the return of Christ in this Advent and Christmas season by joining your Concordia Fine Arts endeavors in Christian praise within our college community.

**January 4 - February 3:** Bill Slack will have a Prints Exhibition in the Music Building gallery. There will be a reception for him and his work on January 9, 7 - 9 p.m.

Off-Campus Entertainment:

**January 15 - March 11-** Andrew Lloyd Webber's phenomenal Broadway smash "The Phantom of the Opera" will be returning to our territory. It will be performed in the Historic Orpheum Theatre. Tickets are \$35, \$50, \$60, and \$65. There are performances every day except Mondays.

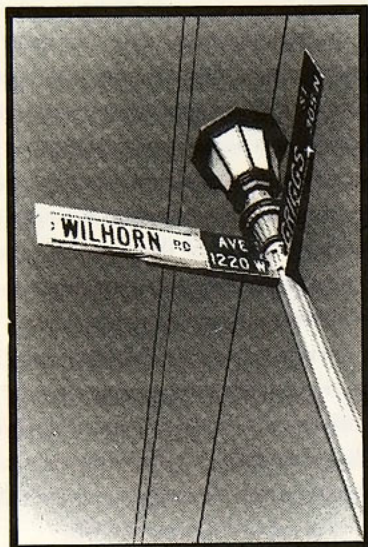
**February 21 - March 4-** "Les Miserable" will be returning to Minnesota. It will be performed in the Ordway Music Theatre. Tickets range from \$29 - 55.

**July 12 - 23-** "Angels in America: Millennium Approaches and Perestroika" will be coming to Minnesota. This set of plays has gotten rave reviews on Broadway and will, I'm sure hit big in the Cities. Try to make plans for this one.

**February:** The Ethnic Dance Theatre will be offering classes in, you guessed it, ethnic dance. Brochures are now available and classes are open to all those willing from ages Kindergarten - Adult. Call (612) 872 - 0024 for more details or for your brochure on the classes. †



# Vitalogy and Christmas



by Brian Wilhorn

Over the last few weeks, anyone who cared to hear what the next Pearl Jam album was going to sound like could simply listen to the EDGE and hear every song played over the course of a weekend. (Some people probably sat by the radio and taped every song so they could be cooler than their friends; I didn't do that.) Even those who didn't care probably heard "Better Man" or "Spin

the Black Circle" which were played every other hour on the EDGE.

Anyway, Pearl Jam's new album *Vitalogy* was released on December 6. (Some people probably went to the record store just after midnight so they could hear it as soon as it was released; I did do that.) Once again, just as when *VS.* was released, those who were looking for something that compared to *Ten*, their first release, were disappointed. I have to admit that I was a bit disappointed by this effort, only because it is Pearl Jam. Anyone else who did this album most likely would have been lauded. The fact remains that if a person were to rate Pearl Jam's albums best to worst it would still be in the order they were released.

The album has some excellent songs and some that, as far as I can tell, really have no point being on the album. Songs like "Spin the Black Circle," Pearl Jam's tribute to vinyl, "Tremor Christ," and "Satan's Bed" are heavier sounding than anything they have ever done and are some of the great songs on the album. "Nothingman" and "Better Man" are slow, quieter songs that equal the melodic "Daughter" and "Elderly Woman Behind the Counter in a Small Town" on "Vs."

But then there are the songs that make the listener simply wonder. There's "Bugs," Vedder's ranting about insects in his hair and on his body and then deciding to join them coupled with a demented accordion (Huh?), "Pry, to," one minute of Vedder spelling P-R-I-V-A-C-Y (Hey Ed, after once or twice we get the picture), and "Stupid Mop" also listed as "hey foxymophandleman, that's me," seven minutes of screechy guitars and a dialogue about suicide (let's hope we don't see another Kurt Cobain, this time with even more warning).

Even though "Vitalogy" contains some questionable songs, the other eleven make another Pearl Jam album well worth getting.

For our special Christmas issue, I have been asked to include a Christmas wish list. With help from Tim Dahle, Donavon Riley, and Chad Whitt, here is my not even half-serious but definitely half-baked Christmas wish list.

Since I've written about Pearl Jam, I wish Eddie Vedder would sing in my shower every morning so I could wake up to it—they wouldn't do songs like "Bugs." I also wish Eddie and the rest would live long enough to do about 20 more excellent Pearl Jam albums.

I wish Beavis and Butthead would lay a finger on Bart Simpson's Butterfinger and pay the ultimate price at Bart's hands.

I wish that a new Christmas album would be released featuring the following: Rush does "The Little Drummer Boy," Queensrych does "Silent Night," They Might Be Giants does "The Twelve Days of Christmas," and Rage Against the Machine does "Joy to the World."

I wish the following tributes, duets, remakes, and tours would or could happen: Harry Connick Jr. does Led Zeppelin, Tom Jones does Nine Inch Nails, Snoop Doggie Dog's does a tribute to country and western and James Hetfield, lead singer of Metallica, plays the cowardly lion in *The Wizard of Oz*. Wait a minute, that's already come true. Jimmy Buffet and Jimi Hendrix would team up and James Brown and James Taylor would team up, Roger Waters would return to Pink Floyd to remake the "Grease" soundtrack, and Nancy Reagan would sponsor the Grateful Dead and Cypress Hill in the "Just Say No Tour '95" to help combat the war on drugs.

Maybe I should just wish for world peace.

## "Before Ellington...!"

by Tom Langemo

When I first received word of the upcoming performance of *Jelly's Last Jam* I thought, "Hmmm...interesting. Jelly Roll Morton? Who's he?" It became a fleeting thought and a secondary aspect to my theatre agenda for the year. In fact, I basically forgot about it. Then I was sitting in my Theatre History I class and it was offered as a possible activity for the class for the following evening. I thought, "Heck. Eight bucks for two hours of musical is good for me. I might as well go see what this whole 'Jelly' thing's about anyway." It's not that I wasn't interested anymore or that my curiosity wasn't piqued, but again, I was skeptical (I just didn't let it show).

So there we were—my professor, three other classmates, and myself trying to fight our way through Holi-Dazzle, full parking ramps, and a bunch of glittered stiffs at some honorable function for which my companions and I were not suitably dressed. All-in-all, the evening was off to a humorous start.

To add to this excitement was the thrill of going to the theatre. Now, as I said before, I was somewhat apprehensive about what I was about to see at the Historic State Theatre. But it's the electricity you feel in your nerve-endings when you are anywhere near a performing arts establishment (knowing that you'll soon be in, assisting in the production of that colossal magic) that always gets me rockin' in my Reeboks.

This was my first time at this particular theatre. I was blown away by gold-plated wall sculptures, classical paintings on the ceilings and walls, Roman pillar architecture framing the proscenium, and the house decked with carvings of draping ribbon and fruit cherubs and classical comedy/tragedy masks. Gold-plated sculptures presided on either side of the proscenium arch depicting three people—one holding a torch, another holding a mask, and another in the middle and placed above the other two, holding a torch. I have yet to analyze exactly what the whole of the sculpture means for the theatre, but I know that it is something I'll love to find out.

So here's me, Mr. Skeptical, acting like a lit-

tle boy in a candy store, totally drawn into the weave of energy just from the atmosphere of the theatre and the fellow patrons. I was probably annoying the bejeebers out of my friends who were with me by asking them questions left and right and pointing to things throughout the whole spectrum of the house.

The lights went low, the audience was silent, and before the show even started I wanted to scream. It's the feeling, you know? The idea that you know something fantastic is about to happen to the microcosm of the world which is the theatre. My skepticism was gone. I was wrapped up in my own anticipation.

Then the music began: perfect hits, blasts, and swagger sugared the air. This was not the music where you listen attentively, sitting in your cushy seat, and smile, nod, and clap in the polite Minnesota way after the performer makes the transition into the continuing action of the scene. This was the music to make your ears flare, your eyes drive wild, your hair tingle in the roots, and your rear-end want to leap to the rotunda, butt the top and fly to the stage to dance your life away with those who put you in this state of explicit emotional speed. Not once was I bored; not once did I think the music was sloppy or that the singers could have been better or that the acting and directing could have been improved.

George C. Wolfe wrote and directed the musical. He is known for his work with the *Angels in America* series for which he won the Tony Award. He also wrote *The Colored Museum*, which he later co-directed for PBS Television's series of *Great Performances*, and he adapted and directed three stories by Zora Neale Hurston and for this, won the Obie Award.

The man who played the lead as the part of the mature Jelly Roll Morton, was Maurice Hines. He has a long list of credits, including *Guys and Dolls*, *Uptown...it's Hot!*, *Satchmo*, the motion-picture production of *The Cotton Club*, and he is currently working on directing and choreographing the extravaganza musical *The Soulful Messiah*, to be broadcast globally from the Holy Land to be a part of the *Jerusalem 3000 Celebration*.

Another big name is Savion Glover who has

done work on Broadway with Gregory Hines and Tommy Tune. Starring at the age of twelve as the title role in the musical *The Tap Dance Kid*, gave him a boost into the theatre world. He was nominated for a Tony in *Black and Blue*. He co-starred in the movie *Tap* with Gregory Hines and Sammy Davis, Jr., and has become a common face to see in the all-time favorite television series *Sesame Street*. He is also the youngest performer in history to receive a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. He played the part of the young Jelly Roll.

Unfortunately, I do not have enough space to write about every performer for this show. because. All—even those with non-speaking roles—have outstanding credential.

So who was Jelly Roll Morton, anyway? Well, he began life as Ferdinand Le Menthe, born in the high society of the Creole of New Orleans. He found himself too adventurous and found himself in the society of ill-repute, where he got his beginning fame for piano excellence. He left New Orleans, traveling the eastern country with his companion Jack the Bear. He ended up in Chicago, where he became famous with his jazz band The Red Hot Peppers. He fell in love, fell out of love, pretended love to get "love" ("no one rolls like the Roll"), left the many women he had "loved", and finally ended up with no love or "love" to speak of (at least that he could see). His music was created from an enticing blend of French opera (to which he was originally exposed), African rhythms, ragtime, and blues. By the 1930's his music became sadly obsolete, as new forms were being explored. He will always be revered, however, and will hold the title of the king of jazz. He died in 1941 in Los Angeles.

His life was amazing and full of follies and trials for which he was haunted throughout his life. This is, or seemed to be, the main focus of the musical. He became big, and people loved him. He was known around the world. However, even the mightiest people find their way into worm holes where the only way out is forward, and to get forward, you'll just have to chow some dirt. He chowed like nothin'—but he never got out of the worm hole. In the musical, the Chimney Man

(death/narrator) guides Jelly through his years of life, from the younger years to the time of his death. Through the scenes we see Jelly change from innocence in the Creole family which vaulted him into the extreme deep-freeze of his soul. Wealth and power set in, practically destroying all relations with his best friend and confidante, Jack the Bear and Anita, his love and trusted caregiver—no matter how he hurt her.

Folks, I'm running out of room and I'm just not sure what else to say in the shrinking space. It was a fabulous performance in dance, costume, set, music, acting, directing, and in all other technical aspects. The story is fascinating. At times you're cheering and wanting to scream "Yes!" at the top of your lungs and in the same scene, just moments later, you want either to pound the person next to you or cry the paint off the walls. IT IS GOOD!!!

Now, I know that it was done last Sunday. The pre-performance sales weren't too hot. People didn't know about it. I'm a classic example! But the response was stupendous and I have a feeling that this show will be back. Perhaps the same actors won't be back, but don't go simply for them. Go for the culminating experience of true art in theatre. Jelly Roll was a master musician and created phenomenal music. It is only fitting that the show to tell his story suits his spirit to the fullest. Please, if it comes back in town (again, I'm sure it will) go to it! You simply will not regret it. "No one rolls like the Roll"—except the musical to tell his story. †

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## Concordia Catches the Spirit of Christmas

by Heather Gifford

Those of us who live away from our homes and families tend to feel the loneliest around Christmas time. Although most college students do get home for the holiday itself, we still miss the entire advent season of preparation. However, after taking a look around our campus, I have seen that the Concordia community does a good job of trying to provide many opportunities to "catch the Christmas Spirit."

Anyone who walks through or past any of the on-campus housing will see masses of lights and decorations adorning the windows and doors. Also, nearly every floor of the dormitories has planned some sort of gathering to celebrate the birth of our Lord, some going as far as planning open houses for all of the Concordia community.



In addition to decorations in dorms, there are the several Christmas and Advent programs taking place on our campus. Not only are the various music programs occurring, but the chapel

also provides weekly Wednesday Advent services and daily chapel services. Also, since it is often better to give than receive, one can participate in Concordia's Shoebox Project, donating personal items to be given to the economically deprived.

All of these things heighten the family atmosphere here at Concordia, which helps to promote the Christmas spirit as well. I hope that all students will take advantage of these opportunities in the few remaining days before break. Perhaps we should all take time to attend a service in the beautifully decorated chapel, or donate to a worthy cause. With the help of our own college community, and a "Christmas with Christ" as our focus, we will enhance both the time spent here with friends and at home with family all the more.

## Project Shoebox Underway at CSP

News Release

If you feel that the old cliché "tis better to give than to receive" rings true, this is an opportunity for you. Project Shoebox is a service that attempts to collect necessary personal items to be put into shoeboxes and wrapped like gifts for the elderly, homeless, and otherwise economically disadvantaged. Many of these people cannot afford to purchase such items for themselves, as the cost of living in Minnesota is high.

If you wish to make the life of someone a little brighter or if you just enjoy giving, please leave any donations on Tier One of the Student Union at the designated table. If you have any questions, please either consult the orange/red flyers in the dining hall or call Chris Conner at X368.



by Russ VanWagner

What is the deal with this school prayer stuff? Who are these people, and where do they come from? I think that Newt needs to read the Constitution before he tries to amend it. (A funny side bar here, during the hearings that Tipper Gore held several years ago to put warning labels on records that may be deemed as offensive: Frank Zappa showed up to argue against the labels. In his opening statements, he held up a copy of the Constitution and said, "I brought this along, just as a reference." Too bad he is dead now. He would have made a great President.)

I get the feeling that this whole school prayer issue is what is called in the world of con men, a "bait and switch." I don't think that Newt cares about school prayer any more than George Bush cared about the Pledge of Allegiance. It's all about snowing the American public. Newt says that what we need to cure the ills of too much violence, deadbeat dads, government waste, executive corruption, foreign competition, and the ever growing budget deficit is one minute of prayer each school day. And a resounding majority of Americans last November said, "Yeah man, that's all we need." Well friends, here is the real deal.

## The ILK of Newt

What Newt really said was that he needs to continue the status quo, get government off of the backs of a few select industries, (defined by the level of their campaigning contributions), increase his own personal power, get himself on the news almost daily, and allow himself just to tear up those pesky speeding tickets.

Let's take a look at what school prayer would actually be like. The first thing we need to do is establish just exactly what the prayer will be. Will it be the Lord's Prayer? Will it be a Christian prayer?

I saw a guy on Ted Kopppe who said that the local community will resolve the contents of the prayer. I also saw Pat Robertson say that, of course, the prayer will be a Christian prayer. By his logic this would be the only kind of prayer that would work, since God is a Christian. So sorry to all those Jews, Muslims, Buddhists, Lakotans, and (dare I say it?) Satan worshipers. Apparently, in this country at least, you are free to worship the little "g" god of your choice, but it has been decided that if you want to talk to the big "G" God, then you have to become a Christian. I can just imagine all of those poor school administrators, sweating over the prayer, not wanting to offend anyone. It will probably end up something like this... "God, please don't let anyone get so upset over this prayer that they will actually show up at a school board meeting and have me fired, and please Heavenly Father, make those ACT scores go up so that folks will allow me and the rest of the staff a small raise next year. And please, if it is your will, don't let any homosexual, Nazi, anti-fur, or pro-choice groups demand that they be able to buy ad space in the school paper or that they demand having a float in the homecoming parade. Amen"

Nope, it's not going to be that simple. It's going to take more than casting a vote and mak-

ing our children pray to fix what's wrong in this country. And the bottom line isn't that Newt and his ilk (doesn't that just sing, Newt and his ilk) will need to make the tough decisions and do what needs to be done. If that was all that was needed, it would have happened. What it is going to take is for each of us to make the tough decisions and do what needs to be done.

Paying a realistic price for a gallon of gas is a good example. If we paid what it really costs, the roads would be in better condition, we would get better mileage, the environment would improve, airlines would be safer, and there would never be another traffic jam anywhere. But if Newt and his ilk were to try to make us do that, there would be a revolution. On the other hand, we could afford to build longer lasting roads, and keep them in a decent working condition. The airports could afford the latest and best equipment and the people to use it. But as it is now, the government can't afford to build roads at all, so they make do by building lousy ones. Right now a majority of TV stations have more sophisticated radar to give you that nifty "color weather" than airports have to give those really nifty "safe landings."

Newt and his ilk have a certain amount of responsibility. But the first function of power is to do whatever it takes to keep it. There is no way that the voters would let Newt and his ilk stay in power if all of the sudden we were paying three to four dollars for a gallon of gas, or \$7.48 (the real total cost according to the GAO...this includes the costs the government takes on for subsidies and health costs) for a pack of smokes. Well let me tell you this, I smoke and I drive my car, and that's a lot of money. But I truly believe that if that is what it costs, then that is what I should pay. I think of it as the price of reality.

School prayer. What do Newt and his ilk

think this will solve? Who are these people?

Speaking of jerks, here is a recipe for jerked chicken wings.

- 12 Chicken Wings
- 1 Medium Onion
- 1/2 C Chopped Scallions
- 1 Tbs Fresh Ground Ginger
- 1/4 C Cider Vinegar
- 1/2 C Soy Sauce
- 1/2 C Olive Oil
- 2 Jalapenos
- 2 Tsp Sugar
- 1 Tbs Jerk Seasoning
- 1/2 Tsp Ground Cinnamon
- 1/2 Tsp Ground Allspice
- 1/2 Tsp Ground Nutmeg
- 1/4 C Honey
- 1/4 C Lemon Juice

Cut off the wing tips and discard. Separate and cut the rest in half at the joint.

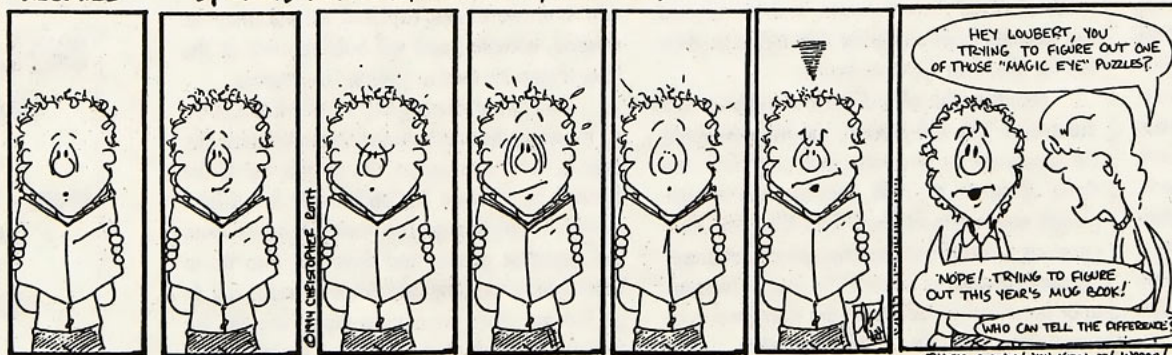
Combine the next 13 ingredients, except the 1/4 C of the soy sauce, in a food processor until a smooth paste is formed.

Take 1/2 C of this paste and mix with the honey, lemon juice and the rest of the soy sauce to create the marinade. You may store the remaining paste in the fridge for up to 1 month. Divide the marinade in half. Use the first half to marinate immediately and save the other half for later use. Marinate overnight. Drain the chicken and discard the marinade. Preheat the oven at 375 degrees and bake the wings on a sheet pan for 30 minutes or until well browned. Remove from the oven and refrigerate for at least 2 hours, but for as long as 5 days. Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Coat the wings with the remainder of the marinade and bake on a sheet pan for 5 minutes. Serve with celery sticks and house dressing.

Eat early, Eat often

ROOMIES

by CHRIS ROTH (with special assist by JASON RATH)





# Concordia Speaks

## The Big Question

by Jason Lucey

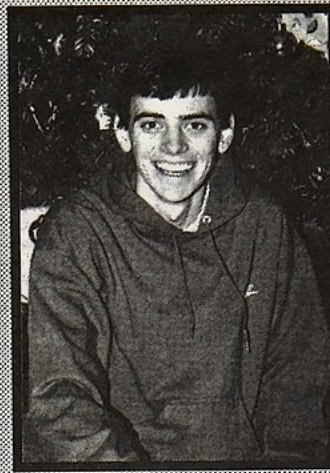
When I was young, I enjoyed Mother Goose and other childhood myths. The imagination and imagery of it all fascinated me. I loved the fact that I would receive money for my pain if I placed my hard, lost tooth under my pillow. I even loved knowing that a giant, hopping lagomorph bounded into my house on the morning of Christ's resurrection to hide colored eggs for me to find.

However, as I grew older I began to reconsider those tales I enjoyed in my younger years and was surprised at what I found. Almost all of them were disgusting. Take, for instance, Mother Goose's Peter Pumpkin Eater—a pure case of illicit bondage. Little Miss Muffet is a tale of terror, and the Itsy-Bitsy Spider is an exercise in the Old Testament-style wrath of God. Therefore, for this season rife with legend and mysticism that all distract from the truth and meaning of Christmas, I have asked a question concerning one of the many things that we as Americans tell our children.

I asked five students what they think of the magical, overweight man who flies around the world breaking into houses, depositing prizes, and taking milk and cookies. ↑



Julie Olsin, senior: "I think it's a felony, but it's magical."



Corey Brandenburger, junior: "He's a nice enough guy, but I know he's not Lutheran; he's too wrapped up in that whole works-righteousness thing."



Doug McCulloch, freshman: "I'm totally against Santa Claus anyway. He takes the meaning away from Christmas."



Amy Marsh, freshman: "As long as he gives me good things I don't mind."



Andy Frerich, freshman: "It's the tradition of Christmas for that to happen, yet we know that's not the only reason. We have to celebrate Christ's birth."

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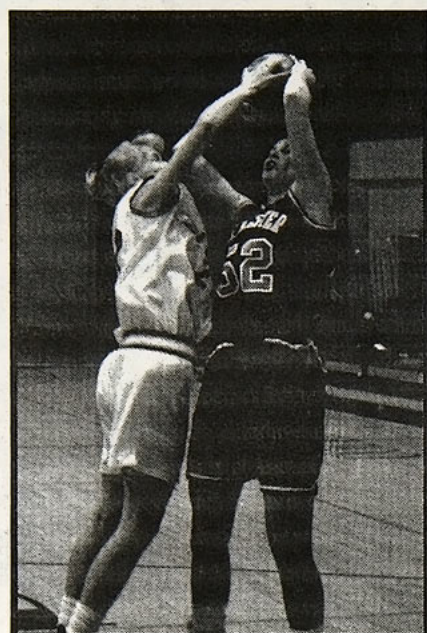
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## Concordia's Women of Winter Gaining Recognition



Senior Leadership--Prochnow "Rejects" Macalaster

by Pat Marsh

A much overlooked sport at Concordia is women's basketball. It does not receive the hype and glam that men's basketball traditionally receives. This is not because of a lack of intensity or excitement by the players, but a lack of awareness on the fans' part. The Concordia women's basketball program is a respectable force led by the impeccable coaching of Tammie Tills.

This season is a season of learning as four of the five starters are freshman. This is not a curse, however, because they are very talented and improve with every game. It also allows for a lot of

good competition to fill the starters' shoes. The bench is, in fact, very talented and the young women are in a never-ending rally to prove themselves. The proof comes in the fact that there has been a different starting line up for each of the first seven games.

With the loss of many players from last year's team comes several drawbacks. The loss of Angie Jacox has opened the door for a team leader to step up and accept the role of spearheading the team. This has yet to happen as the women search for their place and security on a young team. There are leaders on the team, but they need a single, more vocal leader.

Coach Tills has high expectations for her team this year. She looks forward to seeing her freshman mature and become collegiate players of the highest caliber.

The 3-6 record is deceptive in that it is composed of 7 non conference games. The Comets are 2-0 in the UMAC. Coach Tills believes in scheduling difficult, non conference games to bring her players up to a higher level. In the conference Coach Tills sees her team finishing at the first or second position, and they are well on their way with two conference victories.

The records are not what Coach Tills cares about though. Of course she loves to win but as she puts it, "I want them (the team) to play and have fun." It is wonderful to see a coach that stresses the game and not the record. So if you're ready to cheer on the home team and watch a display of great basketball, come on down to the Gangelhoff Center and cheer our women on. †

## Comet Hoopsters Battle Expectations En Route to a 5-3 Start

by Jason Wolter

Not many basketball coaches would complain about being 5-3, when they have as tough a schedule as the Comets (except maybe Bobby Knight), but men's basketball coach Dennis Getzlaff is feeling that way for a reason. He has a team with unlimited potential and great talent.

In addition to his own high expectations, the Concordia community expects his team to win every game. For a team to do that, it must play consistently great basketball. That, according to Getzlaff, is the problem.

With all the talent this team has, they still have yet to bring it all together as one cohesive unit for forty minutes. It was easy last year for the team to gel, because no one expected them to be successful. The "us-against-the-world" mantra helps to psychologically unite a team.

But when a team has three guys starting who did not start last year, as well as three impact players who transferred in this year, it is hard to get them all on the same page. Warns Getzlaff, "I feel sorry for our opponents once we begin to play consistently."

Perhaps the Comets are beginning to gel together. Among the five victories are two to St. Mary's and St. Olaf. Both schools are larger in size and are members of the MIAC. They have one other thing in common: little CSP traveled to their court and beat them.

In the St. Olaf game, the Comets trailed by as many as 16 points in the first half. And, for the second straight year, the Comets came out after half-

time and quickly cut the margin to single digits.

By playing tough on the defensive end, the Comets were able to take a small lead with a couple minutes left in the game. Then apparently the referees had seen enough of this upset, or maybe they were fed up with the verbal barrage they received from the loud contingency of Concordia fans who made the trip. The refs made some bad calls. Their help allowed the Oles to shoot enough free throws to take a three-point lead with 16 seconds left.

Prentiss Perkins, who was having little success from behind the three-point line, brought the ball up the court. With about 4 seconds to play, he "stepped to the front of the line," as one assistant coach put it. He jumped, rising over the outstretched arms of two Ole defenders, and let it fly. The shot arched over his hopeful teammates and worried opponents. SWISH! Nothing but the bottom of the net!

The game went into overtime, and Perkins stayed hot, hitting two three-pointers to seal the victory, 65-62.

Coming up for the Comets is perhaps their biggest game of the year, a match-up with St. Thomas. The Tommies were ranked 8 in the nation for NCAA Division III basketball by Sports Illustrated. The game is at St. Thomas on Saturday, December 17, at 7:30.

With the Timberwolves struggling and the Gophers scheduling non-conference cream puffs, this could be one of the best games you'll have a chance to see this year...anywhere in Minnesota! See ya' there! †

## Concordia Jumps the UMAC Ship

by Jodi Riggert

Concordia College-St. Paul is completing its last year as a member of the Upper Midwest Athletic Conference, and athletic director and men's head basketball coach Dennis Getzlaff has submitted a notice that CSP will become independent in the fall of 1995. The move to an independent program will affect all of the athletic programs at CSP except for the men's soccer team and the football team.

Several reasons support Concordia's decision to withdraw from the conference. Currently, the conference holds a somewhat lower academic and athletic reputation than what CSP would like to be associated with. Also, the eligibility standards of the conference are below what Concordia would like to subscribe to. Finally, the caliber of women's athletics in the Upper Midwest Conference

isn't as high as CSP would prefer.

Many options result with Concordia becoming independent, but no immediate or specific plans have been made. CSP could become an NCAA III school, a step above the present NAIA II membership. The down side to that, though, is the difficulty of qualifying for post-season tournament action as an independent NCAA III team. There has been some discussion on forming a new conference with such schools as Northwestern, Northland, University of Wisconsin Superior, Mount Senario, Viterbo, and a few others. No final decisions have been made as plans remain up in the air.

As an independent athletic college, Concordia may face a more competitive schedule and longer travels to game sites, but sports directors consider such changes to be a necessary and positive one. †

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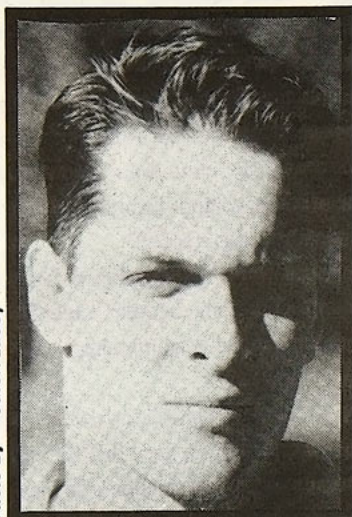


# S CORNER

## Has the NBA Lost It?

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Photo by — Jason Lucey



by Ryan Smith

The NBA season is in full swing as we approach the holiday season. Fans are packing into brand new, high-tech arenas in droves, and the league continues to enjoy unwavering success. The NBA is hot as ever...or is it?

It's out-with-the-old, in-with-the-new as powerhouse teams from the NBA's glory in the 80's (the Lakers, Celtics, and Bulls) are being sifted away further from the top each year by teams with new talent like the Orlando Magic.

This new generation of NBA stars bring their own style

of rock-n-roll basketball to the NBA's hardwood. Unfortunately, the Shaqs and the Pennys and the Big Dogs have brought with them some extra baggage—enormous egos.

Paychecks across the league have skyrocketed, but the game itself is lacking. Highly unproven, and undeserving, rookies are making more dough than the stars of even the most recent past. Glenn Robinson asked for \$100 million dollars for his first ten years of NBA disservice. Michael Jordan played nine NBA seasons, but the greatest player of all time came nowhere near the \$100 million mark in

basketball salary.

Not only do these undeserving, whiny, trash talking brats make large fortunes in such a short time, they insult any knowledgeable fans by playing lazy, uninspired basketball. They're obviously more worried about how they look than how they play. And winning isn't everything; in fact it's virtually nothing!

And the league encourages all of it! New defensive rules don't allow players to make anything happen on that end of the court, and the so-called stars shoot (not make) more free throw, thus slowing down a supposedly high-pace game.

So where does a true fan of good basketball go to watch his or her beloved game? I suggest watching NCAA basketball. These players care about winning and play hard enough to convince fans that they care. But as for the NBA... its over. ☹

## Football, Volleyball Seasons Come to an End

by Jason Wolter

The volleyball and football seasons have ended. While the volleyball team had a very successful season, the football season was disappointing. Both teams featured a mixture of youth and experience, and both should look for better things next year.

The Lady Comets captured their fifth consecutive UMAC championship, going 11-1 in the conference. They also won 25 games, easily one of their most successful seasons. Their record earned them a spot in the NAIA District playoffs, but because of a mix-up, they were seeded fifth in the sub-region. They showed that this seeding was indeed a mix-up by defeating Northern State University at Aberdeen, South Dakota in four games.

Their next opponent was the number one seed, Dordt College. Dordt defeated the Comets in three games, but lost to Moorhead State in the district final.

It was a great year for first-year coach, Liz Golnitz. She has a good reason to look forward to

next year—every player on the team should be back next year, as there were no seniors this season.

The Comet football team took their lumps this year. For starters, they did not live up to the high expectations that were placed on them by head coach, Tom Cross. They had a good core of All-Conference seniors returning and a bumper crop of talented rookies and first-year players. But a lack of consistency on both offense and defense led to a 3-7 record, 2-4 in the UMAC.

The Comets played NCAA Division III powerhouse, Wartburg College (IA) and the NCAA Division I-AA Dayton Flyers. If Las Vegas bothered to put out a betting line on these games, the bet wouldn't have been about a score, but about the number of players riding home in an ambulance.

The Comets played hard; however, they could not last against such talented teams, losing to both by large margins. The Comets graduated four All-Conference seniors, but they have a very talented group returning.

There's no reason to believe that this team cannot compete for the conference title in 1995. ^

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## A Letter from the President

From heaven above to earth I come  
To bring Good News to everyone!  
Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
To all the world and gladly sing.

To you this night is born a child  
Of Mary chosen virgin mild;  
This newborn child of lowly birth  
Shall be the joy of all the earth.

May the angelic proclamation in hymnic poetry bring Good News to everyone in our Concordia College community. During these days of preparation for the celebration of Christmas, "From heaven above" calls us to remember the divine Gift in our celebration. Christ, God's incarnate love, is the reason for Christmas. "Shall be the joy of all the earth" reminds us of the impact of the Gift on our lives. God wants human beings to experience happiness. Myriad tragic reasons threaten the existence of joy on the international, national, local personal levels. Yet may the eternal purpose and power of Christmas bring down to your life a joy filled Christmas faith.

Bob Holst ☩

# Please, Bring the Crosses Back

We're not at the U of M

I am writing in response to the letter in the last issue of *The Sword* that suggested that *The Sword* is exclusive and separatist because of its use of the cross. This idea may have been valid if we were all at the U of M because they are not affiliated with any specific religion. Therefore, they cannot use a symbol of any specific belief. Concordia, on the other hand, tells you they are a Christian college as soon as you walk through the door. In doing so this allows them to have chapel, offer religion classes, and put crosses on their newspapers.

This is not the paper's way of saying we are exclusively Christian or that no one else is welcome. The cross stands for Christianity and all its beliefs, including the idea of reaching out to everyone. If a person doesn't believe in Christianity or the ideals it stands for, that's fine. Just ignore the crosses. It's your right to ignore them as much as it's the right of *The Sword* to put them in there. If someone were to put together a paper that offended no one, he would have nothing to write.

Sincerely,

Kurt Klaus ☩

Disturbed by absence of cross icons

The omission of the cross icons at the end of each article in the November 4 issue of *The Sword* disturbs me. I do not think the crosses symbolize exclusivity, but rather affirm the foundation of which our institution is based. That foundation is the death of Jesus, on the cross, and rising three days later for us sinners.

While some may not like it, this is a Lutheran institution. Are we Christians supposed to be good, quiet students, not rejoicing in the belief that we are saved by Christ's death and resurrection?

In regard to the community, is it wrong for Concordia to spread its faith as it reaches out to the community? Concordia's *Academic Catalog* states on page 4, "The mission of Concordia College, a college of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, is to prepare students for thoughtful and informed living, for dedicated service to God and humanity, and for the enlightened care of God's creation, all within the context of the Christian Gospel." As Christian students of Concordia, we should want to show the community our faith. Also, does not the title, *The Sword*, come from Ephesians 6:17b? This verse states, "The sword of the spirit, which is the word of God."

Please keep in mind that this is a Christian institution, and while there is no intent to be exclusive, do not be afraid to affirm and spread the foundation of which Concordia is based upon.

Sincerely,

Michael Antoine

**Editors' note:** The absence of the cross icons in the Nov. 4 issue of *The Sword* had nothing to do with the letter written to the editors. There were a number of complications during the production of the Nov. 4 issue. When the editors were given the working draft of *The Sword* (without the cross icons), we decided to forego the cross icons, rather than further hold-up the issue's publication. ☩

Offensive...or a confession of faith?

In a November 4 letter to the editors, a writer expressed: "The cross icons at the end of each article in *The Sword* disturb me, for they convey separatism and exclusivity." One can assume that the editors of *The Sword* readily agreed with this writer as witnessed by the fact that the cross icons were removed in the very same edition—before any other readers had a chance to respond!

The key question is where does one draw the fine line between expressing "confession of faith" and demonstrating sensitivity by not being "offensive"?

Throughout scripture we read about God's love being so great that He desires all people to share eternal paradise with Him. With that incredible thought in mind, one cannot help but want to share that tremendous news as often as possible.

The Apostle Paul's laundry list of persecutions is ample testimony of an individual who was willing to risk being "offensive" in order to express his "confession of faith."

If the cross icons are "offensive," then what are we to make of CSP's exclusively Christian chapel services and religion courses?

Every incoming student to Concordia receives a copy of the school catalog. Our Mission Statement clearly states that we are preparing students "all within the context of the Christian Gospel."

If evangelical Christianity is a "sensitivity problem" on Concordia's campus, how can we possibly ask Christian missionaries to risk "offending" diverse groups and cultures in foreign lands?!

Finally, let me suggest that one of the most important reasons why non-Christian students choose to attend Concordia College is because they find faculty, staff, and students who demonstrate uncommon love and concern for all members of the college community. Why? Because these "servants of love" are motivated by the Christian Gospel that goes far beyond the world's "golden rule" standard of conduct.

I believe the cross icons to be acceptable symbols of God's love for all people ☩

## A Vote for E-Mail

I would like to express my opinions regarding Theresa Seto's article about E-mail at C.S.P. (Nov. 4).

Last year, as a student at Concordia University in River Forest, IL, (C.U.R.F.) I had unlimited access to E-mail. I used the Internet system to keep in contact with friends at Gustavus Adolphus College, U of M-Duluth, Concordia College-Moorhead, Bethel College and Boston University—just to name a few. In addition to keeping in contact with friends at different schools, I used E-mail daily to send messages to friends at C.U.R.F. Last May, my friend Deb, to whom I E-mailed everyday, printed out my many letters and gave them to me—they are now a priceless reminder of my many adventures there.

How can I accurately describe the benefit of E-mail for college students? In addition to writing letters to friends, I was able to access information through a system called GopherNet. In this system I found out about local activities, events at other schools, and found the phone number of a long-lost friend at a school in New York. I did this all on the computer—all within minutes. Thus, I was very disappointed to learn that all C.S.P. students did not have E-mail. Knowing that I could quickly and easily keep in contact with new friends at Concordia College-Seward and St. John's University by simply going into a computer lab, typing in my message and then hitting a key or two and it would be sent, or that I could still access that Daily Bulletin at C.U.R.F., or find out what the campus activities are at Notre Dame just as easily, has made my disappointment all the

greater.

I keep reading *The Sword* about new projects C.S.P. has discussed: new playing fields, new football bleachers, a new stadium. What about a new computer system? While I love sports and agree there is a need for better fields, what about a better computer system which would have the potential to benefit all of the Concordia community? Doesn't anyone else here feel cheated because we don't have E-mail?

I understand that some students do not know what E-mail is and do not care to use it, but what about those of us who would like to use it now? Don't we have a right to access something that, if we were attending another school, we'd already be logged on to? What about the minority of students who already have E-mail because of their on-campus jobs? I can understand that phasing in campus-wide usage will be a long and difficult process but what about the idea of usage on a first-come, first-serve sign-up basis? (This way the computer center does not have to have 1200 student mailboxes ready...what about 10, 15, or 20% of that number?) I don't agree that students should have to pay for the service—none of those accessing it now (through their jobs) have to, do they?

I would like to thank *The Sword* for addressing this issue.

Sincerely,

Tanya Laabs ☩

## Dear Santa:

How ya doing big guy? I'm doing well. How's the Mrs.? I hope you two are doing well up there. How was your summer? Mine was great; I partied pretty hard with my friends, as you probably know, but I'm still a good boy. I know I haven't written to you in a long time, so I hope my name's still on the list. Just in case you haven't checked, I graduated from high school and now am at Concordia College, but you knew that, huh?

This Christmas will be a little different from the ones in the past. I'm really not into Matchbox cars or Transformers anymore (but I have kept all my old ones). What I could really use is cash...for school. Since I'm a commuter, I could also use some things for my car. Maybe a new set of snow tires or an air freshener? Or if you are really in a giving mood, you could just give me a new car altogether; a Viper or a Jaguar would be nice, you can even choose the color, but I'd settle for a Jeep. Just leave it in my driveway. You don't have to wrap it...well, maybe a big bow.

Other than those needs, I'm OK. But if you do

have a surplus of Super Nintendo's, I'll take one of those, and a Donkey Kong Country game to go with it. I hope I'm not asking for much, but a guy's got to have his necessities. Well, I'm sure you've got a bunch more letters to write and a huge list to check twice so I'd better go. I'll write again next year and I hope everything goes all right.

Merry Christmas,

Rob Delmont ☩

Dear St. Nicholas,

May everyone experience the joy of giving and receiving impulsive, secret gifts.

Thanks for your example.

Jean ☩